

Dear Chairman Powell and Commissioners,
The FCC needs to insist that television and radio actually provide the information citizens need to make informed decisions. When the word "news" appears in a program title, that program ought to be compelled to give equal time to both sides, under the guidelines of the "fairness doctrine" that was removed under the Reagan Administration.

Local public affairs programming limited, and election coverage is superficial. Fox News, in particular, is out of control, blurring the lines between gossip, commentary, and "hard news." You should deny them a license until there is some truth in labelling ("fair and balanced" -- it's Orwellian!).

Since broadcasters have clearly failed in their obligation to serve the public interest, the FCC should define meaningful public interest requirements that include the fairness doctrine and local electoral affairs programming. At a minimum, broadcasters should air three hours per week of local civic and electoral affairs programming, with at least two hours devoted to substantive election coverage in the six weeks prior to Election Day.

Sincerely,
Leslie Davis
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